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People

"Isn't that strange, huh?"

STEPHEN KING,
HORROR AUTHOR, ON THE SEPT. 21 DEATH (ON KING'S 53RD BIRTHDAY) OF THE MAN WHO HIT HIM WITH HIS VAN

"When Debbie Reynolds first showed up, she said, 'I'm old and I'm fat and I don't care.' Then she got a look at Joan Collins and, believe me, she cared."

NOLAN MILLER,
COSTUMER, ON FILMING OF THE ABC MOVIE "THOSE OLD BROADS," STARRING COLLINS, REYNOLDS AND ELIZABETH TAYLOR, IN WOMEN'S WEAR DAILY

"We do more sophisticated things together — and I leave the play group (poo) to somebody else."

MADONNA,
ON SPENDING TIME WITH HER DAUGHTER, LOURDES

Jodie fosters Jewish ill will by proceeding with a project to do a movie on pro-Nazi filmmaker

FOSTER

Jodie Foster is starting to get heat from Jewish circles about her intention to produce and star in a movie about filmmaker **Leni Riefenstahl,** considered by many a propagandist for Hitler's Germany.

Riefenstahl, alive and active at 98, is best known for her 1934 documentary, "Triumph of Will," perceived by some as deifying Hitler.

"A lot of people in Hollywood are horrified at this," said **Arnold Schwartzman,** who won an Oscar for his documentary "Genocide."

"There will be many objections," he said. "Leni Riefenstahl was probably the best propaganda tool that Hitler had, and a lot of terrible things that happened were as a consequence of what she did."

Said Foster: "I've been interested in Leni for many years. I talked to her on the telephone several times and then eventually met with her. She is really one of the great stories of the 20th century and a moral tale for us all. She is an extraordinary woman, sharp as a tack and as beautiful as she ever was, with a tremendous body."

All rise, order in the court . . . in the celebrity court

♦ Reps for **Whitney Houston,** who is facing a drug charge in Hawaii, approached **O.J. Simpson's** former defense attorney **Johnnie Cochran** to help represent the pop diva in her case, reports USA Today. And Cochran turned her down.

♦ Given a choice between 30 days in jail or a year of counseling and anger management classes, a Boston rap musician chose jail. **Raymond "Ray Dog" Scott** of the rap group **Made Men** was found guilty Thursday of disorderly conduct stemming from a nightclub incident.

Parting such sweet sorrow, but elsewhere, an aisle walk?

♦ Newlyweds **Brad Pitt** and **Jennifer Aniston** must endure their first separation this week when he takes off for Europe to do a movie with **Robert Redford** while she stays behind in L.A. to continue "Friends." He won't be back till Christmas. Well, there's always e-mail.

♦ **Halle Berry** told People mag she "definitely" would wed **Eric Benet** "before the end of 2000. We'll probably go off and elope."

Sweepings from the floor down at Celebrity Central

MIDLER

♦ Director **James Cameron** is denying a report on Space.com that he is planning a trip to the Mir space station.

♦ Sources close to R&B superstar **Lauryn Hill** tell Entertainment Weekly that the singer will soon star in a romantic comedy titled "Sauce," about two rival barbecue rib dealers who fall in love. The news ends rampant speculation about the dreadlocked diva's next big-screen move. In the past, she's reportedly passed on roles in such high-profile films as the "Charlie's Angels" remake, a **Bob Marley** biopic and **Oliver Stone's** proposed "A Star Is Born" remake with **Jamie Foxx.** "Sauce" will be accompanied by a Hill soundtrack, her first full-length recording since 1998's multimillion-selling "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill."

♦ Run! It's like seeing **Martha Stewart** doubled. E! Online reports that the **Olsen** twins, **Mary-Kate** and **Ashley,** have announced the launch of their own lifestyle mag, a la **Oprah Winfrey's** and Stewart's, 'cept the twins' mag will be geared to the teen set. The 14-year-olds will share the top job as editors in chief. Look for it next March. It'll come out six times a year.

♦ Mr. Showbiz says to forget calling **Geraldo Rivera** "mayor" anytime soon. Seems the talk-show host who had floated the idea of running for mayor of New York had his plans shot down by his superiors at NBC. Made him choose between a possible political future and his current job. Guess which won!

♦ This just in from online mag Salon, and it's good news for all of you out there who've been dying to know what **Bette Midler's** house looks like. Psst! The set for her new show, "Bette" — a bedroom, living room and kitchen — is a faithful re-creation of the singer's own home. "They took Polaroids," Midler said in The New York Times Magazine. "It's very odd. My husband thinks the set is not grand enough."

She did it her way; still, lineage issue arises

Sally Taylor says she's built her music career her own way and on her own terms.

This despite the misfortune of being the daughter of singers **James Taylor** and **Carly Simon.**

Taylor and her three-piece band have logged 74,000 miles on her van the past two years, crisscrossing the country performing shows. She has released two CDs on her own Blue Elbow label, "Tomboy Bride" and "Apt. 6S." The second album's title refers to the apartment in New York City where she was raised.

"I never thought I was going to be a musician," Taylor said in Friday's edition of the York (Pa.) Daily Record. "If anything I thought, 'Please, don't let me go into music,' because then I wouldn't have to deal with the shadow effect."

Too late.

— Compiled by Rod Patterson

Clipped By:
C_St_Reed
Jun 24, 2025

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